

GENUS XII.—PERSEPHONA, Leach.

Sp. 1. *Persephona tuberculosa*, A. Milne-Edwards (*Journal des Museum Godeffroy, Band I.*, p. 86). Testa quadrata, tunida, granulis complanatis, apud margines majoribus, omnino instructa; regione gastrica tuberculis tribus; regione cardiaca tuberculo magno, fissura angustissima circumscripto; margine postico tuberculis duobus; pedibus anticis longis, granulatis.

Hab. Bass's Strts.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES 5. AND 6.

Plate 5.

- Fig. 1.—*Leucosia splendida*; with female abdomen, and lateral view of carapace.
 „ 2.—*Leucosia Chevertii*; with male abdomen.
 „ 3.—*Myra australis*; with male, and female abdomen, and lateral view of carapace.
 „ 4.—*Myra darnleyensis*; with the male and female abdomen.
 „ 5.—*Myrodes gigas*; with the male and female abdomen.

Plate 6.

- Fig. 1.—*Leucosia Leslii*; with male abdomen.
 „ 2.—*Phlyxia orbicularis*; with male and female abdomen, and lateral view of carapace.
 „ 3.—*Phlyxia granulosa*, with male and female abdomen, and lateral view of carapace.
 „ 4.—*Arcania pulcherrima*; with female abdomen.
 „ 5.—*Lithadia sculpta*; with female abdomen.

NOTES ON SOME FISHES FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

BY WILLIAM MACLEAY, F.L.S., &c.

I became a few days ago the possessor of part of a zoological collection made at the Solomon Islands by Mr. Cockerell.

Among the spirit specimens I find fourteen species of Fishes, and as but little is known or has been written of the Natural History of this group of islands, I propose in this paper to make a few observations on them, both as regards their specific characters and geographical distribution. I may mention that Dr. Gunther has, in "Brenchley's Voyage of the Curacoa," given the names of 68 species of Fishes, said to have been found at the Solomon Islands, and it is very remarkable that not one of them is to be found in the small collection now before me for description.

1. MESOPRION AUREOVITTATUS, n. sp.

D. 10/12 A. 3/8 L. lat. 45.

Height of body one-fourth of the total length, length of head slightly more than the height of the body. Eyes large, distant from the snout about one diameter of the orbit, and rather less than one diameter apart. The head is flat between the eyes, and slopes gradually to the snout; the maxillary extends to nearly opposite the middle of the eye; the lower jaw is slightly longer than the upper, the outer row of teeth in the lower jaw are rather large, acute, and number about six on each side, in the upper jaw there are only two canines; vomerine teeth on a strong subtriangular protuberance. Præorbital without scales, rough and covered with pores. Cheek covered with small scales, præoperculum with seven or eight small equidistant teeth at the angle which is rounded, and with a very distinct elongate emargination just above the angle. Spines of the first dorsal fin slender and longer than in *M. Johnius*, the fifth and sixth being nearly half the height of the body. The pectoral fins reach the anus. The tail is broad, expanding, and slightly emarginate. The colour above the lateral line is dark and bluish, below it silvery with three golden longitudinal stripes; a large black blotch occupies a space on the lateral line from opposite the eighth dorsal spine, to the sixth dorsal ray. The fins are

yellowish, a dark bar appears to cross the caudal near the apex, but is distinct only on the lower lobe. Total length about eight inches.

I have only one specimen of this Fish, but I have seen another in the possession of Mr. Ramsay, of the Australian Museum. It is said to be from fresh water, and if so, is probably a species peculiar to the Solomon group. Judging from the description, the *M. uninotatus* c. and v. from Brazil is the species it most resembles.

2. THERAPON SERVUS, c. and v.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. I., p. 278.

The specimens of this widely distributed Fish in the Solomon Islands collection were so much beyond the usual size, that I was at first disposed to fancy that I had got hold of Hombr. and Jacq. species *T. Bouzetianus*, Voy. Pole. Sud. Poiss., p. 43, pl. 4, fig 2. There can be no doubt, however, that the species is *servus*.

3. MULLOIDES VANICOLENSIS, c. and v.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. I., p. 404.

My only description of this species is derived from Dr. Gunther's work just quoted, and as far as that description goes it agrees perfectly with the specimen before me. It is quite eight inches in length, and Mr. Ramsay has a specimen of about the same size.

4. GERRES ARGYREUS, c. and v.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. I., p. 353.

Several specimens about five inches in length.

5. PACHYMETOPON SQUAMOSUM, All. and McLeay.

Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, Vol. I., p. 275.

Two small and apparently young specimens of this Fish are in the collection. The reasons for separating this species from

Gunther's *P. grande* are given by Dr. Alleyne and myself in the Proceedings above referred to.

6. POLYNEMUS PLEBEJUS, Gm. L.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. II., p. 329.

There was only one specimen of this Fish in the collection, and that fell to my lot. It is, however, a species of apparently universal distribution in the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

7. CARANX CALLA, C. and V.

Gunth. Cat. Fish. Brit. Mus., Vol. II., p. 433.

I am not quite confident that I am right in assigning the specimen before me to this species. My only example is small and probably very young, but upon the whole it agrees well with the description of *C. calla*, which seems to be a very widely distributed species.

8. PSETTUS ARGENTEUS, L.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. II., p. 487.

9. EQUULA EDENTULA, Bloch.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. II., p. 498.

The collection contained two fine specimens of this Fish. Like the preceding species it seems to have a very wide distribution throughout the Indian, Malayan, and Polynesian Seas.

10. ELEOTRIS OPHIOCEPHALUS, C. and V.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. III., p. 107.

This Fish probably goes into fresh water. It is mentioned by Dr. Gunther as being found in the rivers of Seychelles and New Ireland, and in the seas of Penang, the East Indian Archipelago, and the Philippines. I believe that the Fish named by me *Agonostoma Darwiniense* (Proc. Linn. Soc., N. S. Wales, Vol. II., p. 360) properly belongs to this group of the genus *Eleotris*.

11. ACANTHURUS TRIOSTEGUS, Bl.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. III., p. 327.

One small specimen in the collection of the Australian Museum.

12. GLYPHIDODON SEPTEMFASCIATUS.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. IV., p. 40.

I have one specimen of this Fish, about five inches in length. Dr. Gunther says it is found "from Mauritius to the Philippine Islands and coasts of China." To this may now be added the Solomon Islands.

13. EXOCOCTUS MENTO, c. and v.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. VI., p. 281.

One specimen about six inches in length.

14. CLUPEA KUNZEI, Bleek.

Clupea Moluccensis, Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. VII., p. 427.

I have several specimens about $4\frac{1}{2}$ or 5 inches in length. It is said to be found in enormous shoals some seasons all about the Solomon group. It will probably be found to be a very valuable substitute for sardines or anchovies.

15. ANGUILLA ANEITENSIS.

Gunth. Cat. Fish., Brit. Mus., Vol. VIII., p. 34.

Two specimens of an eel were brought from the Solomon Islands, one (about half-grown and a foot in length) is in my possession, the larger one is in the Australian Museum. It resembles *A. Aneitensis* more than any other species of *Anguilla*, and therefore I have placed it with that species, but it is probable that further examination will prove it to be distinct.
